AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for composing network accessible services said method comprising the steps of:

storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes that identify a type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said network accessible service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan in a predetermined form manner;

determining an instantiated plan that specifies at least one particular network accessible service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; and

evaluating said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to subsequent execution of the determined network accessible services of said instantiated plan.

2.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

3.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate range of each of the parameters.

4.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of

composing an alternative abstract plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

5.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.

6.   (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan is represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.

7.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for composing network accessible services comprising computer software recorded on a computer-readable <u>portable storage</u> medium for performing the steps of:

storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes <u>that identify a type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said network accessible service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan</u> in a predetermined ~~form~~ <u>manner</u>;

determining an instantiated plan that specifies at least one of particular <u>network accessible</u> service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; and

evaluating said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to <u>subsequent</u> execution of the <u>determined network accessible services of said</u> instantiated plan.

8.   (Currently Amended) A computer system <u>comprising computer-readable storage media storing instructions to cause said computer system to provide</u> ~~for~~ composing services comprising:

~~computer software code~~ means for storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes <u>that identify a type of network accessible service to be used and an order of use of said network accessible service, wherein each service is assigned to said abstract plan</u> in a predetermined ~~form~~ <u>manner</u>;

~~computer software code~~ means for determining an instantiated plan that specifies at least one particular <u>network accessible</u> service that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; and

~~computer software code~~ means for evaluating said instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to <u>subsequent</u> execution of the <u>determined network accessible services of said</u> instantiated plan.

9.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, further comprising the step of rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

10.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, further comprising the step of determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate range of each of the parameters.

11.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, further comprising the step of composing an alternative abstract plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

12.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, wherein the abstract plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product in claim 7, wherein the abstract plan is represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.

14.   (New) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising means for rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

15.   (New) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising means for determining a set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate range of each of the parameters.

16.   (New) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising means for composing an alternative abstract plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.

17.   (New) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the abstract plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.

18.   (New) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the abstract plan is represented in a predetermined form using a web services composition language.